

Supplementary Information

Three-component synthesis of arylsulfonyl-substituted indolo[2,1-a]isoquinolinones and benzimidazo-[2,1-a]isoquinolin-6(5H)-ones by SO₂ insertion and radical cascade cyclization

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1. General Considerations

Unless otherwise noted, all chemicals were purchased and used without further purifications. ^1H NMR and ^{13}C NMR spectra were recorded at ambient temperature on a 300 or 400 MHz NMR spectrometer (75 or 100 MHz for ^{13}C). NMR experiments are reported in δ units, parts per million (ppm), and were referenced to CDCl_3 (7.26 or 77.0 ppm) as the internal standard. The coupling constants J are given in Hz. Column chromatography was performed using EM Silica gel 60 (300-400 mesh).

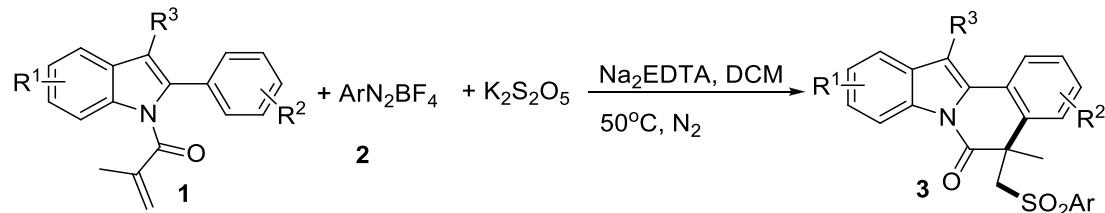
2. General Synthetic Procedures

The synthesis of 2-arylindoles 1: The substrate 2-arylindoles (**1**) were synthesized from arylhydrazine hydrochlorides and ketones according to the literature.¹

The synthesis of aryldiazonium tetrafluoroborate 2: Aryldiazonium tetrafluoroborates were synthesized from commercially available anilines according to the literature.² After the completion of the reaction, the residue was used directly without further purifications.

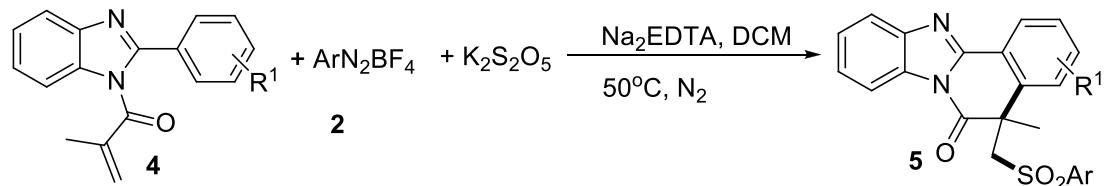
The synthesis of 2-arylbenzimidazoles 4: The 2-arylbenzimidazoles (**4**) were synthesized from benzimidazoles and methacryloyl chlorides according to the literature.³

Typical procedure for the synthesis of product 3:



Under N_2 , a 10 mL Schlenk tube equipped with a stir bar was charged with **1** (0.2 mmol), **2** (0.3 mmol, 1.5 equiv.), $\text{K}_2\text{S}_2\text{O}_5$ (0.4 mmol, 88 mg, 2 equiv.), Na_2EDTA (0.2 mmol, 74.4 mg, 1 equiv.), DCM (2 mL) and sealed. The reaction mixture was stirred at 50°C for 12 h in oil bath. After removing of volatile materials from the reaction mixture under vacuum, the resulted residue was purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel to give the corresponding arylsulfonyl indolo[2,1-*a*]isoquinolin-6(5*H*)-one **3**.

Typical procedure for the synthesis of product 5:



Under N_2 , a 10 mL Schlenk tube equipped with a stir bar was charged with **4** (0.2 mmol), **2** (0.3 mmol, 1.5 equiv.), $\text{K}_2\text{S}_2\text{O}_5$ (0.4 mmol, 88 mg, 2 equiv.), Na_2EDTA (0.2 mmol, 74.4 mg, 1 equiv.), DCM (2 mL) and sealed. The reaction mixture was stirred at 50°C for 12 h in oil bath. After removing of volatile materials from the reaction mixture under vacuum, the resulted residue

was purified by flash column chromatography on silica gel to give the corresponding arylsulfonyl-substituted benzimidazo-[2,1-*a*]isoquinolin-6(5*H*)-ones (**5**).

3. Radical inhibition and trapping experiments

Under N₂, a 10 mL Schlenk tube equipped with a stir bar was charged with **1a** (0.2 mmol), **2a** (1.5 equiv.), K₂S₂O₅ (2 equiv.), Na₂EDTA (1 equiv.), TEMPO (2.0 equiv.), DCM (2 mL) and sealed. The reaction mixture was stirred at 50 °C for 12 h in oil bath. The reaction was completely inhibited without the detection of product **3aa**.

Under N₂, a 10 mL Schlenk tube equipped with a stir bar was charged with **1a** (0.2 mmol), **2a** (1.5 eq), K₂S₂O₅ (2 equiv.), Na₂EDTA (1 equiv.), TEMPO (2.0 equiv.), 1,1-diphenylethylene (3.0 equiv.), DCM (2 mL) and sealed. The reaction mixture was stirred at 50 °C for 12 h in oil bath. The yield of **3aa** is decreased to 35%, along with the formation of adduct **6** and **7**.

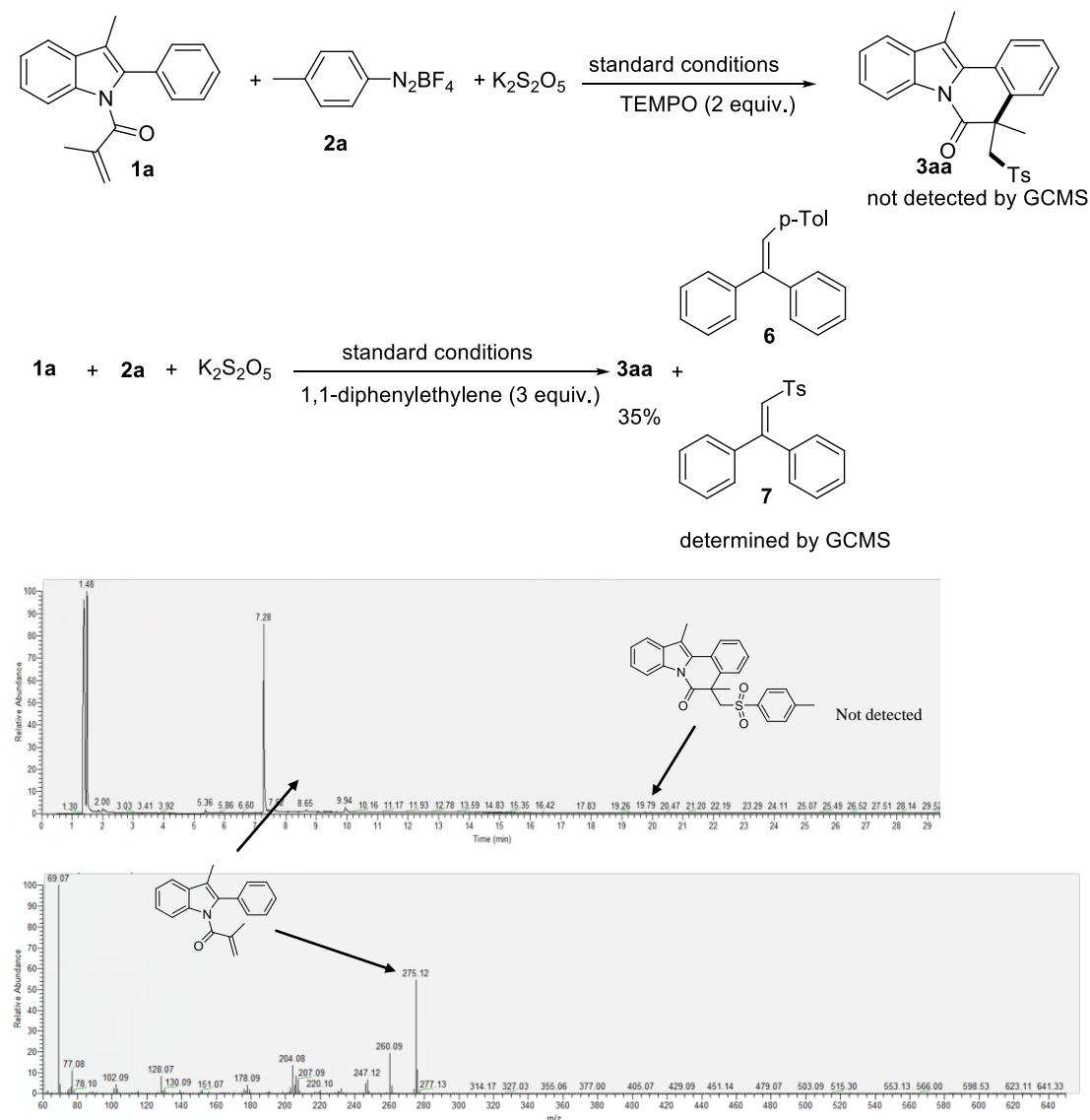


Figure S1 GCMS spectra of the reaction mixture by adding 2 equivalents of TEMPO.

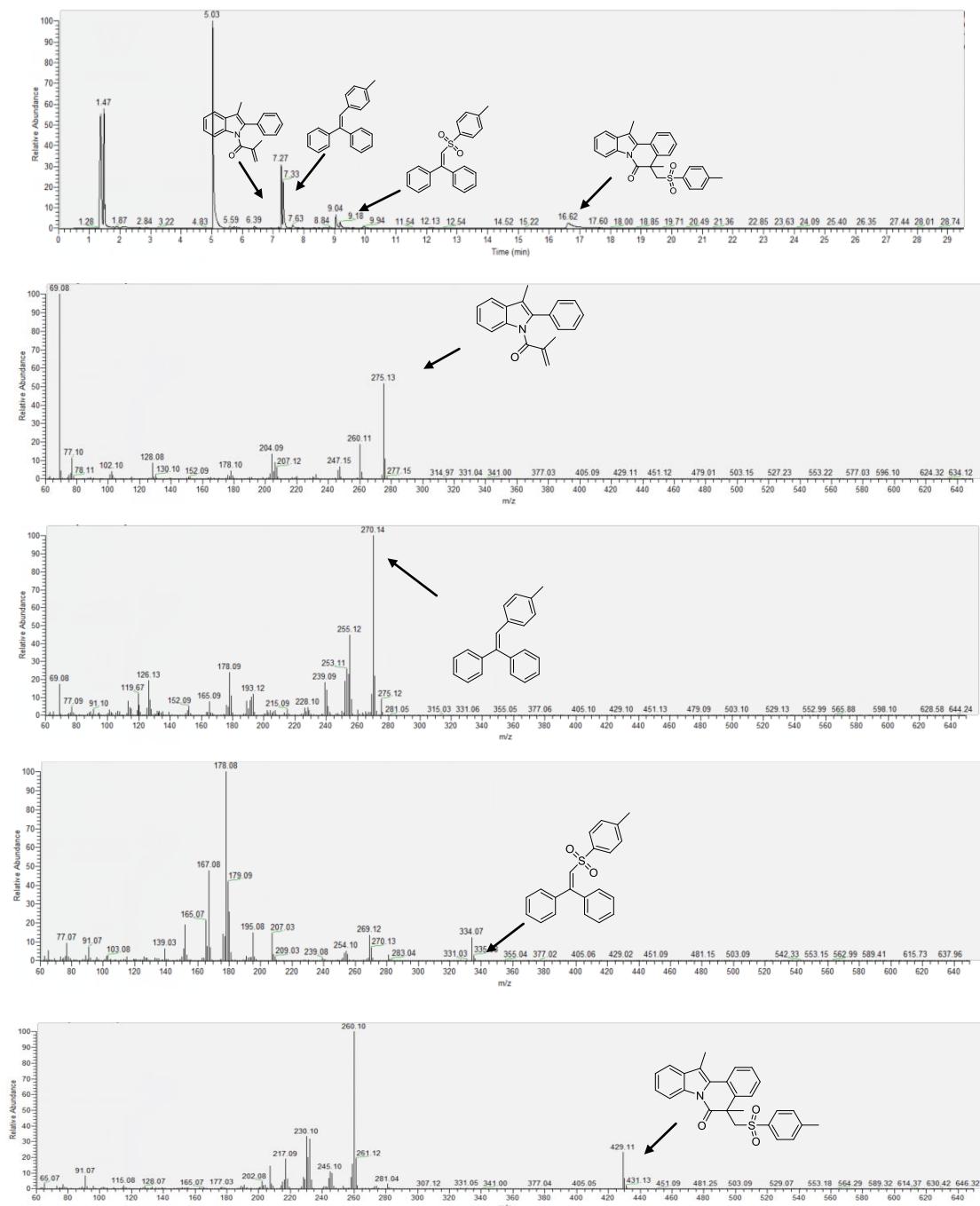
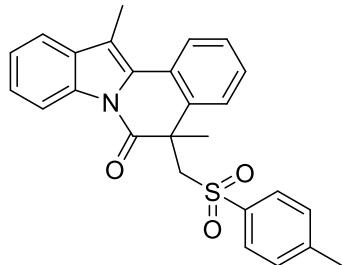


Figure S2 GCMS spectra of the reaction mixture by adding 3 equivalents of 1,1-diphenylethylene.

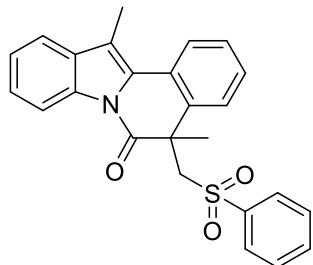
4. Characterization Data for the Products

5,12-Dimethyl-5-(tosylmethyl)indolo[2,1-*a*]isoquinolin-6(5*H*)-one (3aa)⁴



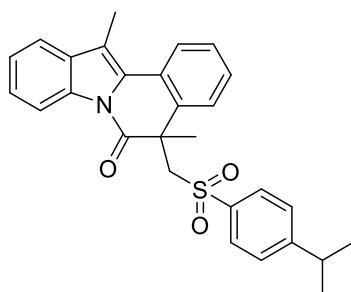
Known compound. Purification by flash column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate 3:1) gave **3aa** (76%, white solid). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.49 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 8.04 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.60 – 7.58 (m, 1H), 7.41 – 7.30 (m, 6H), 7.21 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 6.96 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 2H), 4.57 (d, *J* = 14.6 Hz, 1H), 3.95 (d, *J* = 14.6 Hz, 1H), 2.67 (s, 3H), 2.14 (s, 3H), 1.62 (s, 3H).

5,12-Dimethyl-5-((phenylsulfonyl)methyl)indolo[2,1-*a*]isoquinolin-6(5*H*)-one (3ab)



Purification by flash column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate 3:1) gave **3ab** (79%, yellow solid). mp 171–173 °C. ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.47 – 8.44 (m, 1H), 7.97 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 7.54 – 7.49 (m, 1H), 7.45 – 7.43 (m, 2H), 7.34 – 7.26 (m, 4H), 7.20 – 7.16 (m, 3H), 7.09 (t, *J* = 7.4 Hz, 1H), 4.51 (d, *J* = 14.4 Hz, 1H), 3.89 (d, *J* = 14.6 Hz, 1H), 2.60 (s, 3H), 1.55 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 170.2, 140.3, 134.3, 134.3, 133.2, 132.5, 129.3, 128.8, 127.9, 127.7, 127.5, 127.1, 126.3, 125.8, 125.2, 124.4, 118.5, 117.0, 115.1, 64.4, 46.6, 31.7, 11.7. HRMS (ESI) *m/z* calcd for C₂₅H₂₂NO₃S [M+H⁺]: 416.1315, found 416.1314.

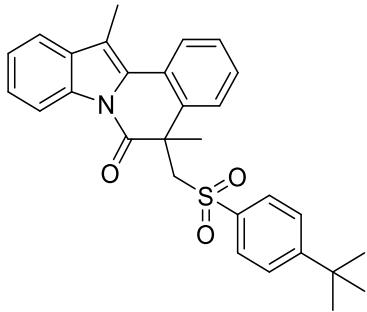
5-(((4-Isopropylphenyl)sulfonyl)methyl)-5,12-dimethylindolo[2,1-*a*]isoquinolin-6(5*H*)-one (3ac)



Purification by flash column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate 3:1) gave **3ac** (83%, white solid). mp 198–199 °C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.45 – 8.43 (m, 1H), 7.93 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.51 – 7.48 (m, 1H), 7.31 – 7.24 (m, 5H), 7.16 – 7.14 (m, 1H), 7.05 – 7.02 (m,

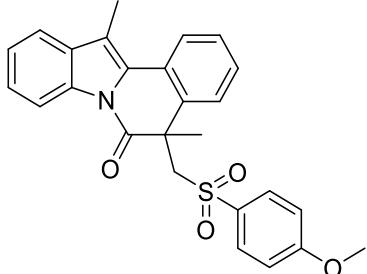
1H), 6.97 (d, $J = 8.2$ Hz, 2H), 4.49 (d, $J = 14.6$ Hz, 1H), 3.87 (d, $J = 14.7$ Hz, 1H), 2.73 – 2.62 (m, 1H), 2.57 (s, 3H), 1.52 (s, 3H), 1.05 – 1.02 (m, 6H). ^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 170.2, 154.8, 137.3, 134.3, 134.2, 132.4, 129.3, 128.0, 127.8, 127.4, 127.3, 126.9, 126.3, 125.8, 125.1, 124.4, 118.5, 116.9, 115.0, 64.4, 46.5, 34.1, 31.8, 23.6, 23.5, 11.7. HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for $\text{C}_{28}\text{H}_{28}\text{NO}_3\text{S} [\text{M}+\text{H}^+]$: 458.1784, found 458.1785.

5-(((4-(Tert-butyl)phenyl)sulfonyl)methyl)-5,12-dimethylindolo[2,1-*a*]isoquinolin-6(5*H*)-one (3ad)



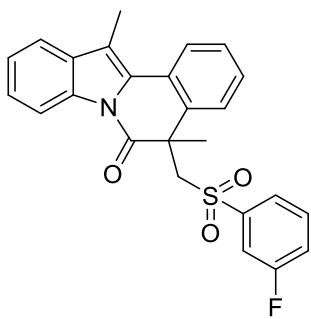
Purification by flash column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate 3:1) gave **3ad** (75%, yellow solid). mp 205–207 °C. ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.45 – 8.43 (m, 1H), 7.94 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.51 – 7.49 (m, 1H), 7.31 – 7.25 (m, 5H), 7.18 – 7.13 (m, 3H), 7.05 (t, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 1H), 4.51 (d, $J = 14.6$ Hz, 1H), 3.88 (d, $J = 14.6$ Hz, 1H), 2.58 (s, 3H), 1.52 (s, 3H), 1.11 (s, 9H). ^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 170.1, 157.1, 136.9, 134.3, 134.2, 132.4, 129.3, 127.8, 127.7, 127.4, 127.3, 126.3, 125.9, 125.8, 125.1, 124.4, 118.5, 116.9, 115.0, 64.3, 46.6, 35.1, 31.9, 30.9, 11.7. HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for $\text{C}_{29}\text{H}_{30}\text{NO}_3\text{S} [\text{M}+\text{H}^+]$: 472.1941, found 472.1943.

5-(((4-Methoxyphenyl)sulfonyl)methyl)-5,12-dimethylindolo[2,1-*a*]isoquinolin-6(5*H*)-one (3ae)



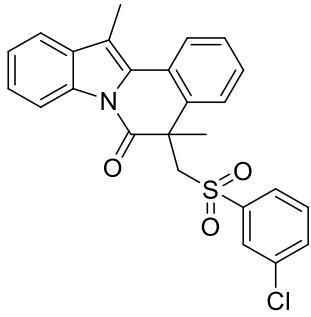
Purification by flash column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate 3:1) gave **3ae** (70%, yellow oil). mp 151–152 °C. ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.39 – 8.37 (m, 1H), 7.95 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.51 – 7.49 (m, 1H), 7.34 – 7.24 (m, 6H), 7.19 – 7.15 (m, 1H), 6.50 (d, $J = 8.6$ Hz, 2H), 4.49 (d, $J = 14.6$ Hz, 1H), 3.85 (d, $J = 14.6$ Hz, 1H), 3.50 (s, 3H), 2.58 (s, 3H), 1.53 (s, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 170.0, 163.3, 134.3, 134.3, 132.4, 130.9, 130.1, 129.3, 127.8, 127.6, 127.5, 126.2, 125.8, 125.1, 124.4, 118.4, 116.9, 115.0, 113.8, 64.6, 55.4, 46.4, 32.0, 11.7. HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for $\text{C}_{26}\text{H}_{24}\text{NO}_4\text{S} [\text{M}+\text{H}^+]$: 446.1421, found 446.1420.

5-(((3-Fluorophenyl)sulfonyl)methyl)-5,12-dimethylindolo[2,1-*a*]isoquinolin-6(5*H*)-one (3af)



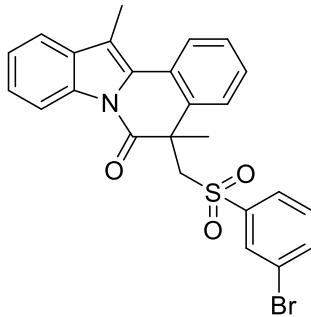
Purification by flash column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate 3:1) gave **3af** (68%, yellow solid). mp 180–182 °C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.47 – 8.45 (m, 1H), 7.95 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 7.52 – 7.50 (m, 1H), 7.31 – 7.23 (m, 4H), 7.17 – 7.10 (m, 2H), 7.05 – 6.99 (m, 2H), 6.97 – 6.92 (m, 1H), 4.50 (d, *J* = 14.7 Hz, 1H), 3.88 (d, *J* = 14.8 Hz, 1H), 2.58 (s, 3H), 1.54 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 170.1, 162.0 (d, *J*_{C-F} = 250.4 Hz), 142.1 (d, *J*_{C-F} = 6.5 Hz), 134.3, 134.0, 132.4, 130.7 (d, *J*_{C-F} = 7.6 Hz), 129.1, 128.0, 127.4, 127.1, 126.4, 126.0, 125.2, 124.5, 123.6 (d, *J*_{C-F} = 3.3 Hz), 120.5 (d, *J*_{C-F} = 21.1 Hz), 118.6, 116.9, 115.4, 115.2 (d, *J*_{C-F} = 24.4 Hz), 64.6, 46.5, 31.5, 11.7. HRMS (ESI) *m/z* calcd for C₂₅H₂₁FNO₃S [M+H⁺]: 434.1221, found 434.1223.

5-((3-Chlorophenyl)sulfonyl)methyl-5,12-dimethylindolo[2,1-a]isoquinolin-6(5H)-one (3ag)



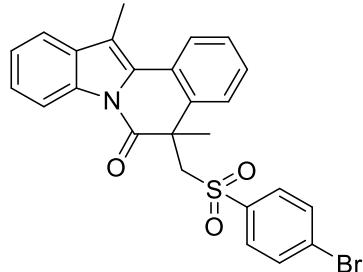
Purification by flash column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate 3:1) gave **3ag** (80%, white solid). mp 191–193 °C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.47 – 8.44 (m, 1H), 7.98 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.53 – 7.51 (m, 1H), 7.36 – 7.28 (m, 4H), 7.23 – 7.17 (m, 2H), 7.13 – 7.03 (m, 3H), 4.52 (d, *J* = 14.7 Hz, 1H), 3.89 (d, *J* = 14.8 Hz, 1H), 2.60 (s, 3H), 1.56 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 169.9, 141.5, 134.9, 134.3, 133.8, 133.4, 132.4, 130.1, 129.1, 128.1, 128.1, 127.4, 127.1, 126.4, 126.0, 126.0, 125.1, 124.6, 118.6, 116.9, 115.5, 64.7, 46.4, 31.6, 11.7. HRMS (ESI) *m/z* calcd for C₂₅H₂₁ClNO₃S [M+H⁺]: 450.0925, found 450.0923.

5-((3-Bromophenyl)sulfonyl)methyl-5,12-dimethylindolo[2,1-a]isoquinolin-6(5H)-one (3ah)



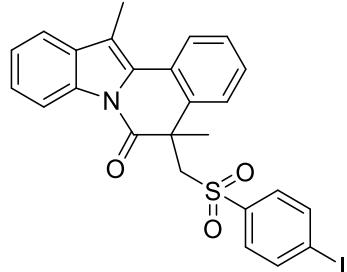
Purification by flash column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate 3:1) gave **3ah** (62%, yellow solid). mp 219–221 °C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.57 – 8.55 (m, 1H), 8.07 (d, J = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 7.62 – 7.60 (m, 1H), 7.49 – 7.46 (m, 1H), 7.44 – 7.36 (m, 5H), 7.19 – 7.16 (m, 1H), 7.13 – 7.08 (m, 2H), 4.60 (d, J = 14.7 Hz, 1H), 3.98 (d, J = 14.8 Hz, 1H), 2.69 (s, 3H), 1.64 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 170.0, 141.6, 136.3, 134.3, 133.7, 132.4, 130.9, 130.3, 129.1, 128.2, 127.4, 127.1, 126.4, 126.0, 125.2, 124.6, 122.7, 118.6, 116.9, 115.5, 64.6, 46.4, 31.6, 11.8. HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for C₂₅H₂₁BrNO₃S [M+H⁺]: 499.0420, found 499.0422.

5-(((4-Bromophenyl)sulfonyl)methyl)-5,12-dimethylindolo[2,1-*a*]isoquinolin-6(5*H*)-one (3ai**)**



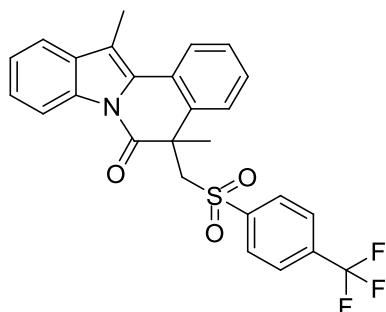
Purification by flash column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate 3:1) gave **3ai** (65%, yellow solid). mp 207–209 °C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.41 – 8.39 (m, 1H), 7.92 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.50 – 7.48 (m, 1H), 7.32 – 7.24 (m, 3H), 7.23 – 7.17 (m, 4H), 7.14 – 7.11 (m, 1H), 7.08 – 7.04 (m, 1H), 4.45 (d, J = 14.7 Hz, 1H), 3.85 (d, J = 14.7 Hz, 1H), 2.55 (s, 3H), 1.50 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 170.0, 138.9, 134.2, 134.1, 132.4, 132.0, 129.4, 129.1, 128.8, 127.9, 127.6, 127.2, 126.3, 126.1, 125.2, 124.6, 118.6, 116.9, 115.4, 64.5, 46.5, 31.7, 11.7. HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for C₂₅H₂₁BrNO₃S [M+H⁺]: 499.0420, found 499.0421.

5-(((4-Iodophenyl)sulfonyl)methyl)-5,12-dimethylindolo[2,1-*a*]isoquinolin-6(5*H*)-one (3aj**)**



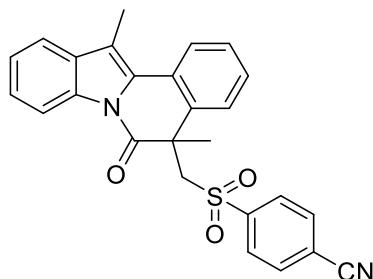
Purification by flash column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate 3:1) gave **3aj** (76%, yellow solid). mp 233–235 °C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.41 – 8.39 (m, 1H), 7.94 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.53 – 7.51 (m, 1H), 7.45 (d, J = 8.1 Hz, 2H), 7.36 – 7.27 (m, 3H), 7.17 – 7.05 (m, 4H), 4.48 (d, J = 14.7 Hz, 1H), 3.86 (d, J = 14.7 Hz, 1H), 2.59 (s, 3H), 1.54 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 169.9, 139.4, 138.0, 134.2, 134.1, 132.4, 129.2, 129.1, 127.9, 127.6, 127.2, 126.3, 126.1, 125.2, 124.6, 118.6, 116.9, 115.4, 101.6, 64.5, 46.4, 31.8, 11.8. HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for C₂₅H₂₁INO₃S [M+H⁺]: 542.0281, found 542.0280.

5,12-Dimethyl-5-(((4-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)sulfonyl)methyl)indolo[2,1-*a*]isoquinolin-6(5*H*)-one (3ak**)**



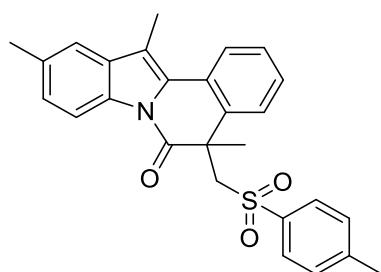
Purification by flash column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate 3:1) gave **3ak** (72%, white solid). mp 209–211 °C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.51 – 8.49 (m, 1H), 8.04 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.63 – 7.59 (m, 3H), 7.49 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 7.43 – 7.36 (m, 3H), 7.22 – 7.11 (m, 2H), 4.62 (d, *J* = 14.6 Hz, 1H), 4.00 (d, *J* = 14.7 Hz, 1H), 2.68 (s, 3H), 1.64 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 169.8, 143.4, 134.8 (q, *J*_{C-F} = 32.7 Hz), 134.2, 134.0, 132.4, 129.0, 128.4, 128.0, 127.5, 127.0, 126.4, 126.1, 125.9 (q, *J*_{C-F} = 3.6 Hz), 125.2, 124.6, 123.0 (q, *J*_{C-F} = 271.6 Hz), 118.6, 116.8, 115.5, 64.4, 46.5, 31.6, 11.7. HRMS (ESI) *m/z* calcd for C₂₆H₂₁F₃NO₃S [M+H⁺]: 484.1189, found 484.1190.

4-(((5,12-Dimethyl-6-oxo-5,6-dihydroindolo[2,1-a]isoquinolin-5-yl)methyl)sulfonyl)benzonitrile (3al)



Purification by flash column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate 3:1) gave **3al** (70%, yellow solid). mp 221–223 °C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.47 – 8.44 (m, 1H), 8.04 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.62 – 7.55 (m, 3H), 7.47 – 7.37 (m, 5H), 7.23 – 7.15 (m, 2H), 4.59 (d, *J* = 14.8 Hz, 1H), 3.99 (d, *J* = 14.8 Hz, 1H), 2.67 (s, 3H), 1.63 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 169.8, 143.9, 134.1, 133.9, 132.4, 132.4, 129.0, 128.4, 128.1, 127.6, 127.1, 126.3, 126.2, 125.3, 124.9, 118.7, 117.1, 116.8, 116.7, 115.6, 64.4, 46.5, 31.6, 11.7. HRMS (ESI) *m/z* calcd for C₂₆H₂₁N₂O₃S [M+H⁺]: 441.1267, found 441.1265.

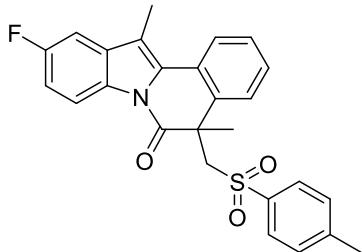
5,10,12-Trimethyl-5-(tosylmethyl)indolo[2,1-a]isoquinolin-6(5*H*)-one (3ba)



Purification by flash column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate 3:1) gave **3ba** (85%, yellow solid). mp 193–194 °C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.22 (d, *J* = 8.3 Hz, 1H),

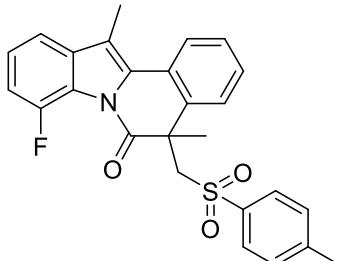
7.93 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.32 – 7.22 (m, 5H), 7.17 – 7.09 (m, 2H), 6.86 (d, $J = 7.9$ Hz, 2H), 4.47 (d, $J = 14.6$ Hz, 1H), 3.83 (d, $J = 14.6$ Hz, 1H), 2.55 (s, 3H), 2.41 (s, 3H), 2.05 (s, 3H), 1.52 (s, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 169.7, 144.4, 136.6, 134.3, 134.0, 132.6, 132.5, 129.4, 129.3, 127.9, 127.7, 127.4, 127.0, 126.3, 125.0, 118.4, 116.6, 114.8, 64.4, 46.3, 31.9, 21.7, 21.4, 11.7. HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for $\text{C}_{27}\text{H}_{26}\text{NO}_3\text{S} [\text{M}+\text{H}^+]$: 444.1628, found 444.1630.

10-Fluoro-5,12-dimethyl-5-(tosylmethyl)indolo[2,1-*a*]isoquinolin-6(5*H*)-one (3ca)



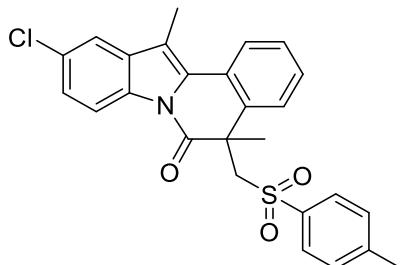
Purification by flash column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate 3:1) gave **3ca** (67%, yellow oil). mp 179–181 °C. ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.35 (dd, $J = 8.9, 4.8$ Hz, 1H), 7.95 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.34 – 7.30 (m, 1H), 7.28 – 7.22 (m, 3H), 7.18 – 7.13 (m, 2H), 7.02 – 6.97 (m, 1H), 6.91 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 2H), 4.46 (d, $J = 14.6$ Hz, 1H), 3.85 (d, $J = 14.6$ Hz, 1H), 2.55 (s, 3H), 2.12 (s, 3H), 1.54 (s, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 170.0, 160.4 (d, $J_{\text{C}-\text{F}} = 242.1$ Hz), 144.5, 136.7, 134.5, 133.9 (d, $J_{\text{C}-\text{F}} = 9.4$ Hz), 130.9, 130.5, 129.4, 127.9, 127.4, 125.9, 125.2, 118.1, 118.0, 114.4 (d, $J_{\text{C}-\text{F}} = 4.1$ Hz), 113.2, 113.0, 104.3 (d, $J_{\text{C}-\text{F}} = 24.1$ Hz), 64.5, 46.3, 31.8, 21.4, 11.8. HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for $\text{C}_{26}\text{H}_{23}\text{FNO}_3\text{S} [\text{M}+\text{H}^+]$: 448.1377, found 448.1376.

8-Fluoro-5,12-dimethyl-5-(tosylmethyl)indolo[2,1-*a*]isoquinolin-6(5*H*)-one (3da)



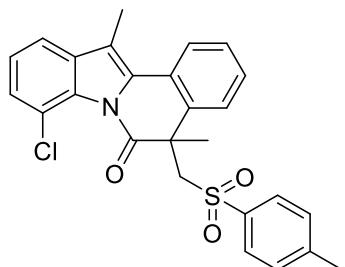
Purification by flash column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate 3:1) gave **3da** (74%, yellow solid). mp 163–164 °C. ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 7.90 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.32 – 7.14 (m, 7H), 7.02 – 6.93 (m, 3H), 4.46 (d, $J = 14.5$ Hz, 1H), 3.82 (d, $J = 14.5$ Hz, 1H), 2.55 (s, 3H), 2.11 (s, 3H), 1.58 (s, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 168.7, 151.8, 149.2, 144.4, 137.0, 136.8 (d, $J_{\text{C}-\text{F}} = 3.9$ Hz), 134.9, 131.8, 129.4, 128.0, 127.8, 127.4, 126.2, 125.5, 125.4, 121.1 (d, $J_{\text{C}-\text{F}} = 11.3$ Hz), 115.2, 114.5 (d, $J_{\text{C}-\text{F}} = 3.5$ Hz), 113.3 (d, $J_{\text{C}-\text{F}} = 23.2$ Hz), 64.7, 47.0, 31.6, 21.5, 11.9. HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for $\text{C}_{26}\text{H}_{23}\text{FNO}_3\text{S} [\text{M}+\text{H}^+]$: 448.1377, found 448.1379.

10-Chloro-5,12-dimethyl-5-(tosylmethyl)indolo[2,1-*a*]isoquinolin-6(5*H*)-one (3ea)



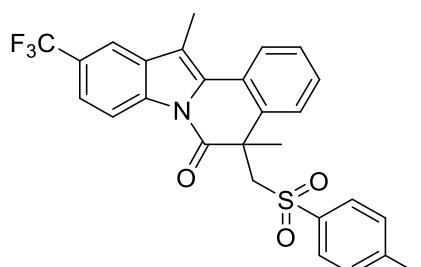
Purification by flash column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate 3:1) gave **3ea** (60%, white solid). mp 201–203 °C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.32 (d, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 1H), 7.93 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.45 (d, *J* = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.31 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.26 – 7.20 (m, 4H), 7.17 – 7.11 (m, 1H), 6.90 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 4.44 (d, *J* = 14.6 Hz, 1H), 3.85 (d, *J* = 14.6 Hz, 1H), 2.53 (s, 3H), 2.10 (s, 3H), 1.53 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 170.1, 144.5, 136.7, 134.5, 133.9, 132.6, 130.7, 130.1, 129.4, 127.9, 127.9, 127.8, 127.4, 125.8, 125.6, 125.3, 118.2, 118.0, 114.1, 64.5, 46.4, 31.8, 21.4, 11.7. HRMS (ESI) *m/z* calcd for C₂₆H₂₃ClNO₃S [M+H⁺]: 464.1082, found 464.1084.

8-Chloro-5,12-dimethyl-5-(tosylmethyl)indolo[2,1-a]isoquinolin-6(5H)-one (3fa)



Purification by flash column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate 3:1) gave **3fa** (65%, yellow solid). mp 189–190 °C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.86 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.41 – 7.39 (m, 1H), 7.35 – 7.23 (m, 5H), 7.21 – 7.16 (m, 2H), 7.00 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 4.46 (d, *J* = 14.4 Hz, 1H), 3.78 (d, *J* = 14.4 Hz, 1H), 2.55 (s, 3H), 2.20 (s, 3H), 1.66 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 169.3, 144.2, 137.6, 136.9, 135.3, 133.3, 132.8, 129.5, 128.0, 127.9, 127.7, 127.5, 127.4, 127.0, 125.5, 125.5, 122.6, 117.4, 114.7, 64.3, 47.4, 30.9, 21.5, 11.6. HRMS (ESI) *m/z* calcd for C₂₆H₂₃ClNO₃S [M+H⁺]: 464.1082, found 464.1083.

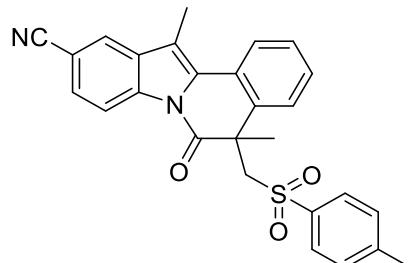
5,12-Dimethyl-5-(tosylmethyl)-10-(trifluoromethyl)indolo[2,1-a]isoquinolin-6(5H)-one (3ga)



Purification by flash column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate 3:1) gave **3ga** (58%, white solid). mp 212–214 °C. ¹H NMR (300 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.51 (d, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 1H), 7.99 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 1H), 7.78 (s, 1H), 7.55 – 7.52 (m, 1H), 7.37 – 7.15 (m, 5H), 6.92 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 4.46 (d, *J* = 14.6 Hz, 1H), 3.87 (d, *J* = 14.6 Hz, 1H), 2.62 (s, 3H), 2.10 (s, 3H), 1.56 (s,

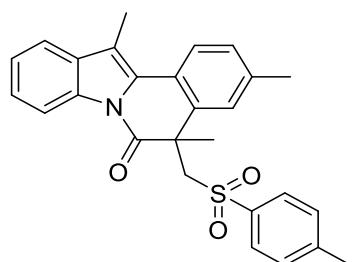
3H). ^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 170.5, 144.5, 136.8, 135.8, 134.5, 132.3, 131.1, 129.4, 128.1, 128.0, 127.8, 127.4, 126.6 (q, $J_{\text{C}-\text{F}} = 32.0$ Hz), 125.7, 125.4, 124.7 (q, $J_{\text{C}-\text{F}} = 270.4$ Hz), 122.3 (q, $J_{\text{C}-\text{F}} = 3.5$ Hz), 117.1, 115.7 (q, $J_{\text{C}-\text{F}} = 4.1$ Hz), 114.5, 64.6, 46.5, 31.7, 21.4, 11.6. HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for $\text{C}_{27}\text{H}_{23}\text{F}_3\text{NO}_3\text{S} [\text{M}+\text{H}^+]$: 498.1345, found 498.1343.

5,12-Dimethyl-6-oxo-5-(tosylmethyl)-5,6-dihydroindolo[2,1-*a*]isoquinoline-10-carbonitrile (3ha)



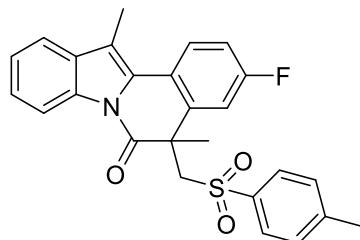
Purification by flash column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate 3:1) gave **3ha** (63%, yellow solid). mp 207–209 °C. ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.55 (d, $J = 8.4$ Hz, 1H), 7.98 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.83 (s, 1H), 7.54 (d, $J = 6.9$ Hz, 1H), 7.36 – 7.28 (m, 3H), 7.23 – 7.16 (m, 2H), 6.97 (d, $J = 7.8$ Hz, 2H), 4.45 (d, $J = 14.6$ Hz, 1H), 3.90 (d, $J = 14.6$ Hz, 1H), 2.59 (s, 3H), 2.17 (s, 3H), 1.56 (s, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (75 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 170.8, 144.5, 137.0, 136.1, 134.5, 132.6, 131.6, 129.5, 128.7, 128.4, 128.1, 127.7, 127.4, 125.6, 125.4, 123.1, 119.7, 117.6, 114.0, 107.6, 64.6, 46.7, 31.6, 21.5, 11.6. HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for $\text{C}_{27}\text{H}_{23}\text{N}_2\text{O}_3\text{S} [\text{M}+\text{H}^+]$: 455.1424, found 455.1425.

3,5,12-Trimethyl-5-(tosylmethyl)indolo[2,1-*a*]isoquinolin-6(5*H*)-one (3ia)⁴



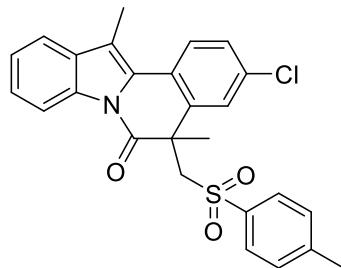
Known compound. Purification by flash column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate 3:1) gave **3ia** (60%, yellow solid). ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.39 – 8.36 (m, 1H), 7.96 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.52 – 7.50 (m, 1H), 7.34 – 7.23 (m, 6H), 7.17 – 7.13 (m, 1H), 6.88 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 2H), 4.48 (d, $J = 14.6$ Hz, 1H), 3.85 (d, $J = 14.6$ Hz, 1H), 2.59 (s, 3H), 2.06 (s, 3H), 1.54 (s, 3H).

3-Fluoro-5,12-dimethyl-5-(tosylmethyl)indolo[2,1-*a*]isoquinolin-6(5*H*)-one (3ja)⁴



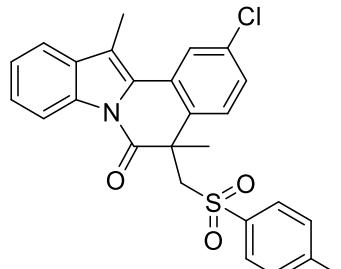
Known compound. Purification by flash column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate 3:1) gave **3ja** (58%, yellow solid). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.47 – 8.45 (m, 1H), 8.01 (dd, *J* = 9.0, 5.6 Hz, 1H), 7.60 – 7.57 (m, 1H), 7.40 – 7.34 (m, 4H), 7.12 – 7.07 (m, 1H), 7.01 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 6.96 – 6.93 (m, 1H), 4.55 (d, *J* = 14.7 Hz, 1H), 3.85 (d, *J* = 14.7 Hz, 1H), 2.64 (s, 3H), 2.20 (s, 3H), 1.61 (s, 3H).

3-Chloro-5,12-dimethyl-5-(tosylmethyl)indolo[2,1-*a*]isoquinolin-6(5*H*)-one (3ka)⁴



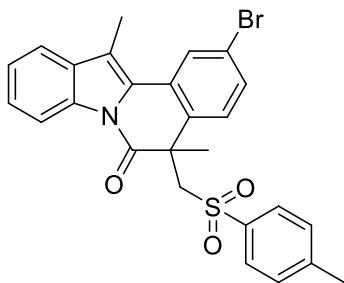
Known compound. Purification by flash column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate 3:1) gave **3ka** (71%, yellow solid). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.52 (d, *J* = 7.0 Hz, 1H), 7.95 (d, *J* = 8.6 Hz, 1H), 7.59 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 7.42 – 7.26 (m, 5H), 7.08 (d, *J* = 2.1 Hz, 1H), 7.02 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 4.57 (d, *J* = 14.8 Hz, 1H), 3.87 (d, *J* = 14.8 Hz, 1H), 2.64 (s, 3H), 2.24 (s, 3H), 1.61 (s, 3H).

2-Chloro-5,12-dimethyl-5-(tosylmethyl)indolo[2,1-*a*]isoquinolin-6(5*H*)-one (3la)



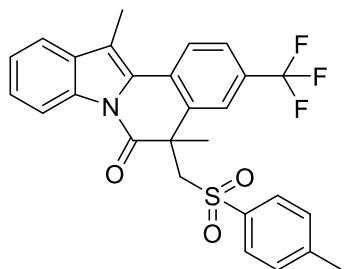
Purification by flash column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate 3:1) gave **3la** (63%, yellow solid). mp 188–189 °C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.50 – 8.48 (m, 1H), 7.98 (d, *J* = 2.0 Hz, 1H), 7.62 – 7.60 (m, 1H), 7.43 – 7.34 (m, 4H), 7.20 – 7.17 (m, 1H), 7.11 – 7.09 (m, 1H), 7.02 – 6.95 (m, 2H), 4.55 (d, *J* = 14.7 Hz, 1H), 3.88 (d, *J* = 14.7 Hz, 1H), 2.68 (s, 3H), 2.20 (s, 3H), 1.60 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 169.5, 144.7, 136.6, 134.4, 133.9, 132.6, 132.1, 129.4, 128.9, 128.0, 127.8, 127.4, 126.3, 124.6, 124.6, 118.7, 117.0, 116.2, 64.4, 46.1, 31.6, 21.5, 11.7. HRMS (ESI) *m/z* calcd for C₂₆H₂₃ClNO₃S [M+H⁺]: 464.1082, found 464.1081.

2-Bromo-5,12-dimethyl-5-(tosylmethyl)indolo[2,1-*a*]isoquinolin-6(5*H*)-one (3ma)



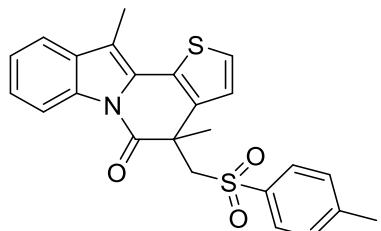
Purification by flash column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate 3:1) gave **3ma** (62%, yellow solid). mp 198–200 °C. ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.41 (d, $J = 7.8$ Hz, 1H), 8.05 (s, 1H), 7.54 (d, $J = 7.4$ Hz, 1H), 7.35 – 7.26 (m, 4H), 7.18 – 7.14 (m, 1H), 7.02 (d, $J = 8.4$ Hz, 1H), 6.94 (d, $J = 7.8$ Hz, 2H), 4.47 (d, $J = 14.6$ Hz, 1H), 3.80 (d, $J = 14.6$ Hz, 1H), 2.60 (s, 3H), 2.14 (s, 3H), 1.52 (s, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 169.5, 144.7, 136.6, 134.4, 133.1, 132.1, 130.2, 129.5, 129.1, 128.2, 127.9, 127.8, 127.5, 126.3, 124.6, 122.0, 118.7, 117.0, 116.2, 64.3, 46.2, 31.6, 21.5, 11.7. HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for $\text{C}_{26}\text{H}_{23}\text{BrNO}_3\text{S}$ [M+H $^+$]: 508.0577, found 508.0578.

5,12-Dimethyl-5-(tosylmethyl)-3-(trifluoromethyl)indolo[2,1-a]isoquinolin-6(5H)-one (3na)⁴



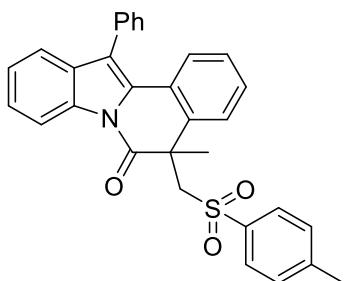
Known compound. Purification by flash column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate 3:1) gave **3na** (62%, yellow solid). ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.56 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 1H), 8.14 (d, $J = 8.4$ Hz, 1H), 7.65 – 7.57 (m, 2H), 7.45 – 7.37 (m, 3H), 7.30 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 2H), 7.01 (d, $J = 8.0$ Hz, 2H), 4.61 (d, $J = 14.8$ Hz, 1H), 3.95 (d, $J = 14.8$ Hz, 1H), 2.71 (s, 3H), 2.23 (s, 3H), 1.65 (s, 3H).

4,11-Dimethyl-4-(tosylmethyl)thieno[2',3':3,4]pyrido[1,2-a]indol-5(4H)-one (3oa)



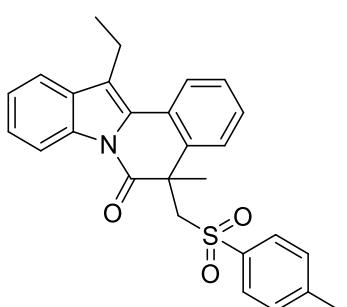
Purification by flash column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate 3:1) gave **3oa** (60%, yellow oil). mp 152–154 °C. ^1H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 8.27 – 8.25 (m, 1H), 7.44 – 7.41 (m, 1H), 7.28 – 7.18 (m, 5H), 6.84 – 6.80 (m, 3H), 4.38 (d, $J = 14.5$ Hz, 1H), 3.66 (d, $J = 14.5$ Hz, 1H), 2.41 (s, 3H), 1.96 (s, 3H), 1.50 (s, 3H). ^{13}C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl_3) δ 170.0, 144.7, 136.1, 135.6, 134.5, 131.7, 129.2, 128.0, 127.6, 126.1, 126.1, 125.6, 125.5, 124.5, 118.4, 116.4, 112.8, 64.6, 45.6, 30.7, 21.3, 9.7. HRMS (ESI) m/z calcd for $\text{C}_{24}\text{H}_{22}\text{NO}_3\text{S}_2$ [M+H $^+$]: 436.1036, found 436.1038.

5-Methyl-12-phenyl-5-(tosylmethyl)indolo[2,1-*a*]isoquinolin-6(5*H*)-one (3pa)⁴



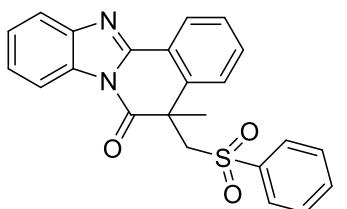
Known compound. Purification by flash column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate 3:1) gave **3pa** (64%, yellow solid). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.41 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 7.52 – 7.28 (m, 9H), 7.20 – 7.17 (m, 3H), 7.08 – 7.04 (m, 1H), 6.96 – 6.90 (m, 3H), 4.51 (d, *J* = 14.6 Hz, 1H), 3.87 (d, *J* = 14.6 Hz, 1H), 2.04 (s, 3H), 1.59 (s, 3H).

12-Ethyl-5-methyl-5-(tosylmethyl)indolo[2,1-*a*]isoquinolin-6(5*H*)-one (3qa)



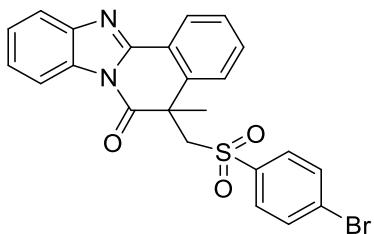
Purification by flash column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate 3:1) gave **3qa** (68%, yellow solid). mp 173–174 °C. ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.37 – 8.35 (m, 1H), 7.90 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 7.51 – 7.49 (m, 1H), 7.34 – 7.24 (m, 6H), 7.18 – 7.14 (m, 1H), 6.85 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 2H), 4.48 (d, *J* = 14.6 Hz, 1H), 3.84 (d, *J* = 14.6 Hz, 1H), 3.07 (q, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 2.00 (s, 3H), 1.52 (s, 3H), 1.35 (t, *J* = 7.5 Hz, 3H). ¹³C NMR (101 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 170.0, 144.5, 136.4, 134.4, 134.3, 131.6, 129.3, 128.6, 128.0, 127.6, 127.6, 125.9, 125.8, 124.7, 124.4, 121.6, 118.2, 117.1, 64.3, 46.4, 32.0, 21.3, 18.7, 13.4. HRMS (ESI) *m/z* calcd for C₂₇H₂₆NO₃S [M+H⁺]: 444.1628, found 444.1626.

5-Methyl-5-((phenylsulfonyl)methyl)benzo[4,5]imidazo[2,1-*a*]isoquinolin-6(5*H*)-one (5ab)⁵



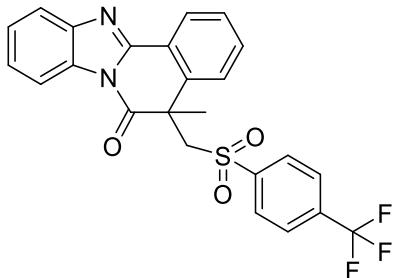
Known compound. Purification by flash column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate 3:1) gave **5ab** (64%, white solid). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.44 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 8.27 – 8.25 (m, 1H), 7.78 – 7.76 (m, 1H), 7.41 – 7.30 (m, 6H), 7.21 – 7.17 (m, 3H), 7.10 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 4.48 (d, *J* = 14.8 Hz, 1H), 3.96 (d, *J* = 14.8 Hz, 1H), 1.60 (s, 3H).

5-(((4-Bromophenyl)sulfonyl)methyl)-5-methylbenzo[4,5]imidazo[2,1-*a*]isoquinolin-6(5*H*)-one (5ai)⁵



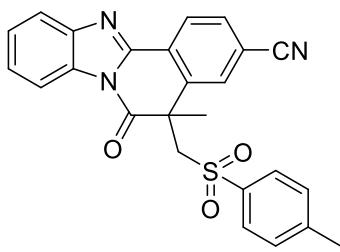
Known compound. Purification by flash column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate 3:1) gave **5ai** (55%, yellow solid). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.43 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 8.24 – 8.22 (m, 1H), 7.78 – 7.76 (m, 1H), 7.42 – 7.30 (m, 5H), 7.24 (t, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 7.20 – 7.18 (m, 2H), 7.11 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 4.47 (d, *J* = 14.8 Hz, 1H), 3.94 (d, *J* = 14.8 Hz, 1H), 1.61 (s, 3H).

5-Methyl-5-(((4-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl)sulfonyl)methyl)benzo[4,5]imidazo[2,1-*a*]isoquinolin-6(5*H*-one (5ak)⁶



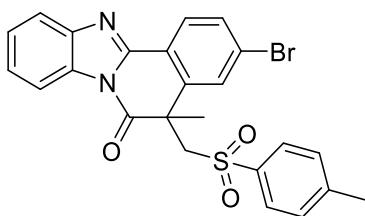
Known compound. Purification by flash column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate 3:1) gave **5ak** (48%, yellow solid). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.43 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1H), 8.25 – 8.23 (m, 1H), 7.78 – 7.76 (m, 1H), 7.50 – 7.34 (m, 7H), 7.19 – 7.13 (m, 1H), 7.05 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 1H), 4.51 (d, *J* = 14.9 Hz, 1H), 3.98 (d, *J* = 14.9 Hz, 1H), 1.63 (s, 3H).

5-Methyl-6-oxo-5-(tosylmethyl)-5,6-dihydrobenzo[4,5]imidazo[2,1-*a*]isoquinoline-3-carbonitrile (5ba)³



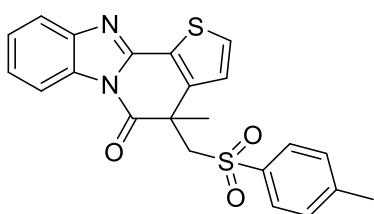
Known compound. Purification by flash column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate 3:1) gave **5ba** (80%, yellow solid). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.51 (d, *J* = 8.2 Hz, 1H), 8.26 – 8.24 (m, 1H), 7.80 – 7.77 (m, 1H), 7.60 (d, *J* = 8.1 Hz, 1H), 7.43 – 7.40 (m, 2H), 7.33 (s, 1H), 7.21 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 2H), 7.01 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 4.49 (d, *J* = 15.0 Hz, 1H), 3.94 (d, *J* = 15.1 Hz, 1H), 2.23 (s, 3H), 1.61 (s, 3H).

3-Bromo-5-methyl-5-(tosylmethyl)benzo[4,5]imidazo[2,1-*a*]isoquinolin-6(5*H*-one (5ca)³



Known compound. Purification by flash column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate 3:1) gave **5ca** (68%, yellow solid). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.27 – 8.23 (m, 2H), 7.76 – 7.74 (m, 1H), 7.46 – 7.37 (m, 3H), 7.19 (d, *J* = 1.8 Hz, 2H), 7.09 (s, 1H), 6.97 (d, *J* = 8.0 Hz, 2H), 4.47 (d, *J* = 15.0 Hz, 1H), 3.87 (d, *J* = 15.0 Hz, 1H), 2.20 (s, 3H), 1.59 (s, 3H).

4-Methyl-4-(tosylmethyl)benzo[4,5]imidazo[1,2-a]thieno[2,3-c]pyridin-5(4H)-one (5da)³



Known compound. Purification by flash column chromatography on silica gel (petroleum ether/ethyl acetate 3:1) gave **5da** (40%, white solid). ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.11 – 8.08 (m, 1H), 7.70 – 7.68 (m, 1H), 7.36 – 7.32 (m, 3H), 7.25 – 7.19 (m, 2H), 6.92 (d, *J* = 7.9 Hz, 2H), 6.82 (d, *J* = 5.0 Hz, 1H), 4.37 (d, *J* = 14.6 Hz, 1H), 3.76 (d, *J* = 14.6 Hz, 1H), 2.02 (s, 3H), 1.56 (s, 3H).

5. References

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6. Copies of the ^1H NMR and ^{13}C NMR Spectra

